

## Amendments to the Claims

1. (currently amended) A toy percussion instrument, comprising:
  - an instrument body;
  - a striker for striking the instrument body to produce a sound; and
  - a tether connecting the striker to the instrument body;wherein the tether has one end connected to the instrument body at a body attachment location, and an opposite end connected to the striker at a striker attachment location, the striker attachment location being fixed in relation to and spaced inwardly from the ends of the striker; and
  - wherein the striker attachment location is spaced inwardly from the ends of the striker by at least one fifth the length of the striker.
2. (cancelled)
3. (original) A toy percussion instrument as set forth in claim 1, wherein the striker attachment location is spaced inwardly from the ends of the striker by at least one fourth the length of the striker.
4. (original) A toy percussion instrument as set forth in claim 3, wherein the striker has a rounded striker end portion and an opposite handle end portion.
5. (previously presented) A toy percussion instrument, comprising:
  - an instrument body;
  - a striker for striking the instrument body to produce a sound; and
  - a tether connecting the striker to the instrument body;wherein the tether has one end connected to the instrument body at a body attachment location, and an opposite end connected to the striker at a striker attachment location, the striker attachment location being spaced inwardly from the ends of the striker;
  - wherein the striker attachment location is spaced inwardly from the ends of the striker by at least one fourth the length of the striker;

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